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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/819,225	03/27/2001	Junichi Kinoshita	81788.0191	2361

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EXAMINER

MOONEY, MICHAEL P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2877

DATE MAILED: 01/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/819,225

Applicant(s)

KINOSHITA, JUNICHI

Examiner

Michael P. Mooney

Art Unit

2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-13,17 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Prior arguments are moot in light of the following new grounds for rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 2-3, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102b as being anticipated by Suzuki et al. (5852304).

Suzuki et al. teaches a waveguide optical device comprising a waveguide for guiding light, wherein said waveguide comprises a ridge waveguide portion formed as a substantially stripe convex portion extending in a guiding direction, and a gain waveguide portion which guides light in a gain region optically coupled with said ridge waveguide portion; an electrode formed on the upper surface of said waveguide; an extended portion extending from said gain waveguide portion in the lateral direction of said waveguide; and an electrode pad connected to said electrode and extending on the upper surface of said extended portion. (fig. 10; col. 7 lines 47-63).

Thus claim 2 is met.

Suzuki et al. teaches wherein the resistance in at least a portion of said extended portion is increased to suppress injection of an electric current from said electrode pad. (col. 7 lines 5-8). Thus claim 3 is met.

Suzuki et al. teaches further comprising a diffraction grating formed along said waveguide to give optical perturbation to light to be guided, wherein said gain waveguide portion has a substantially phase shift effect on light guided in said waveguide. (fig. 10; col. 7 lines 47-63; col. 9 line 10 to col. 10 line 15). Thus claim 14 is met.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102e as being anticipated by Doerr et al. (5987050).

Doerr et al. teaches a waveguide for guiding light wherein said waveguide comprises a ridge waveguide portion formed as a substantially stripe convex portion extending in a guiding direction, and a gain waveguide portion which guides light in a gain region optically coupled with said ridge waveguide portion, wherein a length of said gain waveguide portion is not more than 1/10 an overall length of said waveguide. (See: A1-A3 in fig. 1).

Thus claim 15 is met.

Doerr et al. teaches a diffraction grating formed along said waveguide to give optical perturbation to light to be guided, wherein said gain waveguide portion has a substantially phase shift effect on light guided in said waveguide. (See: See P1 and A1 in fig. 1; #106 in fig. 3). Thus claim 16 is met.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-13, 17-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Mooney whose telephone number is 703-308-6125. The examiner can normally be reached during weekdays, M-F.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 703-308-4881. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7721 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956. An alternative useful number for status inquiries is 703-306-3329.


Michael P. Mooney
Examiner
Art Unit 2877


Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2877

FGF/mpm
1/12/04